NSC BRIEFING

28 September 1960

MOSCOW AND PEIPING PROPAGANDA TREATMENT OF MAJOR SPEECHES AT THE 15th UNGA SESSION

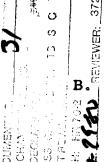
- I. President's speech, summarized by TASS in 600 words, given usual tendentious treatment by Soviet media. However, government newspaper <u>Izvestia</u> published full text (unusual but not unprecedented coverage of a Presidential pronouncement).
 - A. Moscow disparages the speech as "colorless," "mere sophistry," "disappointing," and "nothing new."
 - 1. Stated on 24 September, "one can hardly escape the impression that statesmanship is on an indefinite leave of absence from Washington."
 - 2. Soviet media have not picked up Khrushchev's impromptu remark that speech was "conciliatory."

Some 50 Moscow radio commentaries elaborated TASS criticism.

- 1. TASS reported that President advanced "so-called" five-point program for Africa; commentators said the African delegates seemed bored and that "the aid proposed by the United States is insignificant."
- C. TASS said President "virtually buried" idea of general and complete disarmament.
- II. Peiping reported briefly on 23 September that President gave "a long speech," followed up later in day with heavily slanted 1,200-word account--twice as long as TASS's and much more denunciatory.
 - A. Chinese account says President devoted more than half speech to "advocating the US Government's policy of aggression against Africa through continued, intensified use of the UN."

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- B. Radio Peiping broadcast a truncated version of this story to domestic and a few foreign audiences--typical handling of a Presidential statement.
- III. Khrushchev speech given unprecedented publicity by Moscow.
 - A. More than twice the publicity given his UNGA speech last year.
 - B. Greater attention than Moscow has ever paid any Khrushchev speech.
 - C. Speech termed a "bold new peace initiative" that drew "wide acclaim" from world public opinion, caused "confusion and alarm" in Western "ruling circles."
 - D. Most commentaries, including Pravda's 26 September editorial, focus on disarmament and proposal for liquidation of colonialism.
 - 1. Comparatively little attention has been given his proposals for changing UN structure and moving UN headquarters.
- IV. Other bloc countries have followed Soviet line except Communist China, whose handling reflects current Sino-Soviet differences.
 - A. Apparently still suspicious of Khrushchev's intentions toward West, Peiping has so far made no comment whatever on the speech.
 - B. Official New China News Agency did issue 1,600-word summary, including all of Khrushchev's major points, but did no editorializing.
- V. Moscow and Peiping divergency again manifested in Tito speech treatment.
 - A. Moscow gave Tito more objective treatment than President, with stress on Tito's plea for disarmament.
 - B. Peiping denounces Yugoslav bitterly, ignores his approval of ChiCom UN membership.
 - C. Chinese undoubtedly furious at Khrushchev-Tito tete-a-tete yesterday.